

# Nation

Volume 4, No. 23 • November 21, 1997

*Inside:*

**Cree Language and  
Culture Conference**

**Tournament moves  
to Rouyn-Noranda**

**Entrepreneurial  
Series Part II**



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## NOTHING CHANGES WITHOUT A FIGHT

I have been talking to some friends within the Cree Nation. They were devastated because of the recent decision favoring the exploiters working to drown the land.

I am as usual referring to Hydro-Quebec and their plans for the Rupert and Great Whale, as well as other Aboriginal lands and rivers.

The continued fight to save Cree and First Nations land is wearing out people. This recent decision was a hard one to take. It concerns the United States regulatory body, FERC, and their ruling on Hydro-Quebec. FERC stands for the United States Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. The FERC ruling stated that Hydro-Quebec could sell power in the U.S. without any problems.

But cheer up, every quarter, there is a FERQ review in which Hydro-Quebec has to tell how much power they are selling. I can see the beautifully detailed list auditing how much they sell and to whom. Kind of makes you think, doesn't it? Bill Namagoose, Executive Director of the Grand Council of the Crees, said that Hydro-Quebec could be assured that the Crees will scrutinize Hydro-Quebec's quarterly reports.

In essence this means that no U.S. electric company, which is a customer of Hydro-Quebec power, is secret. Crees and their supporters can target each individual company and wage an unrelenting war against them. No violence, of course. After

all, we aren't barbarians.

The other point I would make is that this decision really changes nothing. Hydro-Quebec has been selling power like crazy to the States anyhow. They have, since they announced the suspension of the proposed Great Whale River hydro-electric project, tripled their electricity exports to the U.S.

So what has really changed? Nothing. Nothing except we lost this round that might have put the mega-corp. out of action. At least as far as stopping them from increasing their U.S. exports even more.

The first fight was won by having individuals in Canada and the U.S. decry the situation and putting pressure on their legislative assemblies and the power companies. This is what is going to have to happen again.

We'll all have to roll up our sleeves and get back to work again. Protecting the land is a full-time occupation and one that is worthwhile. I fully support it and all those who practice that value of protecting and preserving the land.

Nothing has changed when the protectors and preservers of the land are still in conflict with the exploiters of the land. Only when we give up and join the exploiters will things change. On the other hand we could change all the exploiters into protectors and preservers, then that would truly be a change.

by William Nicholls

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Joseph George at the Language  
Conference

Photo: Neil Diamond  
design: Katerina Cizek



I was dispatched to Nemaska over the Hallowe'en weekend for some important work so I missed the Nation slash Cree School Board Hallowe'en party at the Masonic Lodge in Downtown Montreal. You've heard, I'm sure, of the Masons. They are the not too secret cult who control most of the so-called civilized world and its institutions. They're involved in Finance, Religion, Television, the drug trade, Christmas, the elections of Lucien Bouchard and Preston Manning (both pretenders to the crown of Antichrist, by the way), and I bet at least one member signed the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement.

Interestingly, Joseph Brant of the Six Nations was reportedly, and probably still is, a member of the Order even though he passed on to our happy hunting grounds years and years ago. The story goes that he stopped the execution of an American revolutionary when he recognized the secret Mason signal.

That story got me wondering. Which or how many of the "chieves" today are members of this evil organization? Is the chief who wants to pass a resolution that would make him chief for life a member? I wouldn't be surprised. What would that mean for the Order or for us to have the same man sitting as chief for the rest of his and many others' lives? One positive thing I can think of is the money we would save on elections. We wouldn't need any. We could use the extra cash for... I don't know... bailing out money-losing bands and entities?

Another good thing about it: We wouldn't have to worry about some loser getting in. We'd always know who's next in line. Long live the Chief! And think of the tourist potential. People would come from miles around to gawk at us paying tribute to our sovereign while throwing money in our laps. Finally, we'd have mansions for everybody.

I don't know how I go so far off topic. Excuse me. So there I was in Nemaska. Again. I did my business and left for the Cree Language and Culture Conference in Ouje-Bougoumou on the controversial Route Du Nord in a driving snowstorm. (Beware the logging trucks. They don't care about speed limits and human lives. Not to mention the Cree forests.) We arrived in Chibougamau late so we decided to finish the trip the following day and went out for some late entertainment. The next morning my ride was nowhere to be found. I borrowed a fluorescent piece of cardboard from a gas station at the edge of town and



**Ernest Webb at conference with Clifford and Brian Connishish, Friends of the Nation (Forever)**

wrote "OJ!" on it and started walking. Cars, vans, trucks whizzed past ignoring me. Several kilometers later a pickup screeched to a halt. I threw my bag in the back and jumped in.

The school gym was packed with people from all over Creeland. Each had their name and title pinned to their breast in syllabics. I struggled to decipher their names. My colleagues and I corner a few people for "streeters" and ask them to reveal their thoughts on the future of the Cree language and if they dream in Cree or not. Not many do. Some avoided the question altogether and laughed in our faces. It's a legitimate question!

People, Elders and youth alike, spoke passionately of the language. "It must be preserved, studied, modernized. It is who we are and how we communicate with the Creator. Without it we are nothing."

I was reminded of something someone else had said months before the conference, "Our culture and traditions have failed us." (!!)

Maybe it will be us who will fail our culture and traditions if we're not careful.

by **Ndiamon**

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## MAYOR, MERCHANTS STUNNED BY MOVE

The mayor of Val d'Or and merchants in the city are upset and angry about the decision to move the Cree Nation hockey and broomball tournament to Rouyn-Noranda.

"It is a big loss," said Mayor Ronald Tetreault, who added that he was "shocked" on hearing the news.

"I thought all the problems were resolved. We had signed an agreement."

Tetreault said if the tournament ever returns to Val d'Or it may not get the same reception as before. Moving to Rouyn "will make sponsorship harder to get in the future in Val d'Or," he said.

The tournament's major sponsor in Val d'Or is fuming.

"We did everything to find a solution. What's deplorable is not that we didn't want them. They didn't want us. We are disappointed," said Jean-Pierre Laprise, manager of the Geant des Aubaines and Hart department stores.

Laprise emphasized that he is not angry at anyone in particular, but just "disappointed."

"It could have been the best tournament to date with everything we had planned. We worked all year for this. I have the contract in my pocket," he said.

Laprise said it has been known since last spring that hotel rooms would be tight because a mining convention was planned at the same time. "They should have made alternate plans."

Others in Val d'Or suggested the hotel problems will be the same in Rouyn. Josee, manager of the Chateau 80 bar, said: "We are used to having Indians. In Rouyn they're not. I don't know if they'll be well-received."

Larry Demers was manager of the Val d'Or arena during every tournament since the beginning, except the first one. He's retiring this year and is sad to see the tourney go. "We're very, very disappointed. I've been with those people for 15 years and they just go away like that. So I'm going to be a little lonesome."

Demers said the Cree move may have been influenced by bad experiences with certain merchants in the past. "It's their party. It's their weekend. And you've got to give them everything they want to make them happy. But some people don't do that, so I'm disappointed."

-Alex Roslin

## CNIT SAYS: THE PUCK STOPS HERE

Rouyn-Noranda is getting a whopper of a Christmas present courtesy of the Cree Nation Invitational Tournament.

Sixteen years of tradition will come to an end this year as the annual Cree hockey and broomball tournament moves to Rouyn from Val d'Or.

Officially, the reason was a lack of hotel rooms in Val d'Or. "What it boiled down to was there was no accommodation for the teams. Entire communities had no rooms," said Jeff Spencer, co-organizer of the tournament. "Either we had to cancel the tournament or move it."

Spencer said no hotel rooms were available for 60 to 75 per cent of team members because most rooms Val d'Or had already been booked by other Crees.

But there are plenty of other reasons for the move, according to Cree team members and recreation directors.

The main one is a long string of incidents in which Crees saw discrimination or being unappreciated in Val d'Or. The final straw came this summer during the baseball tournament when two bars allegedly charged Crees more than non-Native customers.

"People said the racism from this summer was one of the big things," said one recreation director.

"I personally think it's time for a little change, hopefully for the better," said another. "That should wake up Val d'Or. We were after them for years for more sponsorship and cooperation. Finally people said that's enough."

Rouyn has 399 hotel rooms as opposed to 244 in Val d'Or. The shopping and prices are better in Rouyn, especially since Val d'Or merchants jack up their prices during the tournaments.

Rouyn is offering Crees free ice time (Val d'Or was still charging after all these years). Rouyn has four arenas (Val d'Or has two) and it is offering a free shuttle between the arenas. The new date for the tournament, Dec. 11 to 14, is also better because it's after exams. Another advantage of Rouyn for one person: the Cage Aux Sports.

The city of Rouyn appointed its director-general of economic development as the liaison with the Crees. In Val d'Or, Crees were dealing with someone lower down.

The decision to move came as a shock and surprise to many in Val d'Or. In the past, the tournament has brought in 3-4,000 Crees and \$4 million into Val d'Or.

Even after the decision to move, Val d'Or Mayor Ronald Tetreault was still assuring people Cree chiefs would overrule the recreation people and keep the event in Val d'Or, which didn't happen.

The city and hotels tried at the last minute to convince Crees to stay during two days of frantic meetings, but nothing acceptable was offered. The tournament couldn't be moved to another weekend because Val d'Or's arena was already booked for other hockey games.

The lack of hotel space was made worse by the fact that the Barrick Gold company had booked 60 out of 96 rooms in the Continental Hotel for a convention. Two other hotels in the city closed down this summer, adding to the room crunch.

Mayor Tetreault wondered about the hotel reservations already made in Val d'Or, saying Crees probably won't get their deposits back. But several hotel managers contacted by *The Nation* said this won't be a problem. Just call in advance to cancel and your money is yours.

by Alex Roslin



On behalf of the members of  
the Nemaska First Nation,  
the Chief and the Council  
wish all the participants of  
the 1997 Cree Nation  
Invitational Hockey and  
Broomball tournament the  
best of luck and a great trip!



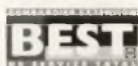
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## QUEBEC PLAYS HARBALL WITH NATIVES

As discussions get under way with Quebec over hydro projects and Cree rights, some readers may be wondering about where Quebec is coming from. What does the government want?

In public, Premier Bouchard and Hydro-Quebec promise a new era of openness toward Crees. But what are their true plans?

Talks have been going on and on for years with the Crees' neighbours, the Innu and the Inuit. What have we learned about Quebec from them?

According to the Innu, the government holds a view of Native people that seems straight out of the 18th century. Quebec's line is unchanged for the last 20 years: Natives did not exist as peoples before the Quebec government or people arrived.

Do not adjust your set. Yes, you heard right. "They're not willing to recognize that the right to Native self-rule comes from the fact that we existed before," said Armand MacKenzie, spokesman for the Innu.

"I know, it's stupid. But at the bottom of it, that's what it means. They don't recognize that indigenous peoples of this province were here before the people and government of Quebec," said MacKenzie, who is a lawyer for four Innu communities.

The Innu have been in negotiations with Quebec on a self-government treaty since 1977, 20 long years, with no results.

MacKenzie says the Innu could sign many deals with Quebec this moment if only they would give in on this fundamental principle: their inherent right as Natives.

Quebec's solution is to offer the Innu a few extra powers, but treat them basically like any other municipality in the province. Quebec is unwilling to say these powers come from any

unique right that Natives may have.

MacKenzie points out: "Where does this right come from? The right comes from the fact that we were sovereign before Quebec. But Quebec doesn't want to recognize this. They don't recognize Natives is what this means. It means Quebec is the almighty."

MacKenzie finds the government's views strange given its sovereignty agenda. "They claim they have a right to self-determination, they have an inherent right, but at the same time they are denying this right to people who were there before the Quebec people."

So what's happening with the Inuit of Nunavut? Like the Crees, the Inuit saw Premier Bouchard paying a visit to one of their communities recently. A spokesman for the Inuit said Bouchard expressed "a lot of goodwill" during his trip in September. He promised to meet with the Inuit soon to restart talks on self-government.

Well, the Inuit are still waiting. They expected the meeting sometime in October, but November is almost over and still no meeting. The self-government talks were put on hold more than two years ago before the 1995 referendum on sovereignty.

The Inuit of Quebec saw all the attention that was given to Inuit self-government in the NWT, which led to the creation of Nunavut, Canada's third territory. They wonder why the Quebec Inuit don't receive the same treatment.

Makivik Corp. says there's no reason the Quebec Inuit shouldn't have a government commission devoted to their issues, like in Nunavut. So far, nothing like that is on the table... There isn't even a table!

by Alex Roslin

## TREES BELONG TO NATIVES: COURT

by William Nicholls

A November 4 New Brunswick court's decision by Judge John Turnbull promises to be good news for First Nations across Canada.

The decision says the trees on Crown lands belong to the Aboriginal people. This ruling basically means the forestry companies that have been granted access to Crown lands by the Nova Scotia and New Brunswick provinces are now in jeopardy of losing their cutting rights.

Grand Chief Roger Augustine started this court case. First Nations, even though they may cheer now, can expect to see this precedent-setting ruling appealed all the way to the Supreme Court of Canada.

If upheld it may bring in the first of guaranteed revenue-sharing of resource extraction from traditional Native lands and territories. It also further defines the relationship Aboriginal peoples have with unoccupied Crown lands. Some Native leaders have said this ruling has the potential to see compensation for past damages by forestry companies. New Brunswick Native leaders are saying they are looking at more than just trees in compensation packages but are including lost wildlife, natural resources and lost opportunities.

Cree Grand Chief Matthew Coon Come hadn't had a chance to review the decision in detail, but did comment on the case, saying, "It certainly has ramifications in regards to the trees that are on Crown lands actually belong to the Aboriginal Peoples. That will have a series of ramifications with all the wood concessions and wood rights that have been allocated to forestry companies in and around our area. Even if they appeal that decision, at least now there is a jurisprudence case in which it is clearly shown, in our case, the trees belong to the Crees. We'll have to assess how we can use that in the development of our own court case that we have prepared and wanted to file. So we'll have to assess the New Brunswick court case. In ours, that was what we were trying to establish, that the trees belong to the Crees. So it was very encouraging to see this decision has been made."

- BY WILLIAM NICHOLLS



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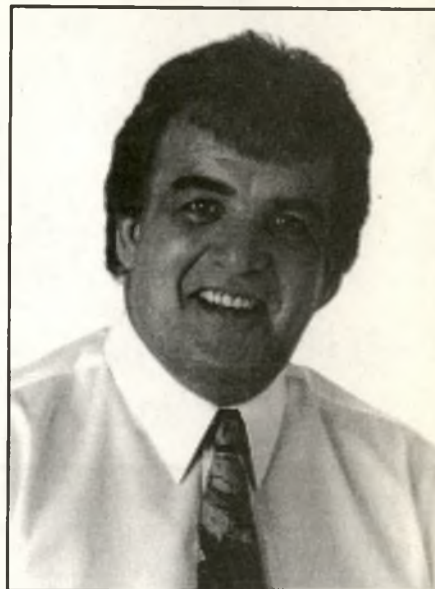
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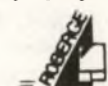
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Malartic	12	6	5	1	48	35	35
Cree Nation Bears	10	5	5	0	40	44	44
Ville-Marie	11	5	6	0	39	35	35
Ste-Germaine	11	4	5	2	29	35	35
Quevillon	12	4	8	0	30	51	51
Val d'Or	11	2	8	1	26	50	50
Evain	9	2	7	0	31	51	51

PLAYER, NUMBER, POSITION	GP	G	A	Pts.
Matoush, Jerry 19, LW	10	8	9	17
Sam, Matthew 15, RW	9	10	6	16
Neeposh, David 17, LW	7	4	5	9
Cooper, Naaman, 3, C	10	6	3	9
Swallow, Stanley, 14, RW	9	2	5	7
Swallow, Christopher, 6, D	10	3	3	6
Metabie, Andy, 12, C	9	0	5	5
Coonishish, Jordan, 18, D	10	0	4	4
Shecapio, Romeo, 7, LW	9	1	2	3
Blackned, Murray, 2, LW	10	2	2	3
Neeposh, Clayton, 8, RW	5	1	1	2
Gunner, Abednego, 4, D	10	1	1	2
Bobbish, Wayne, 9, D	9	2	0	2
Neeposh, Tommy, 11, D	7	1	0	1
Blacksmith, Emmanuel, 5, D	10	1	0	1
Stewart, Ian, 13, RW	9	0	0	0
Lameboy, Roger, 10, LW	6	0	0	0
Georgkish, Justin, 16, C	1	0	0	0
Snowboy, Eric, 1, G, Goals Against: 22, Goals Avg: 4.4%, 225 min. played				
Brien, Peterson, 30, G, GA: 22, Goals Avg: 4.4%, 225 min. played				
Games played: 10	Period 1	2	3	Total
WE SCORED:	15	13	12	40
THEY SCORED:	17	10	17	44

(All scores effective Nov. 10, 1997)



## COMMISSION HAS TEETH AGAIN

Irate Crees with a complaint against Cree government must be heaving a sigh of relief these days. It's only taken four to five months since the chiefs met in June and agreed in principle on the appointment of three new commissioners. The federal government confirmed the appointments of the Cree Naskapi Commissioners through an Order in Council. Appointed are Philip Awashish, Robert Kanatewat and Richard Sanders. Appointed as Chairman, Sanders is a temporary substitute for Judge Paul until the RCMP investigation into the Judge's alleged financial shenanigans is complete.

Newly appointed commissioner Philip Awashish said he was pleasantly surprised to hear of his nomination being confirmed. "I feel the role of a commissioner to oversee the implementation of the Cree Naskapi Act is important to the proper functioning of Cree/Naskapi local government," he said.

Commissioners are touring the Cree and Naskapi communities even as you read *The Nation* to see the chiefs and councils as well as community members.

- by William Nicholls

## YEAH, YOU GOT BOOKS?

Check this one out: THE MERRIAM-WEBSTER DICTIONARY OF QUOTATIONS, 1992

This is one thought-provoking book, man. The material, though it might seem quite dry to some, allows the few of us to reflect on a deep mental level. We thoroughly enjoyed reading this on one tripping night. Here is just a sample of the quotes we debated, digested and abused.

Here was a real turn-on:

"The true adventurer goes forth aimless and uncalculating to meet and greet unknown fate" -by O. Henry (not the chocolate bar, though we were hungry for one)

Here is one we utterly agreed with:

"To be great is to be misunderstood" -by Ralph Waldo Emerson

This was one exceptional beauty that described us to a tee:

"To be loved is to be fortunate, but to be hated is to achieve distinction" -by Minna Antrim

This was one of our favorites... You'll understand why!

"A little inaccuracy sometimes saves tons of explanation" -by Saki

Our last deep thought:

"In my beginning is my end" -by T.S. Eliot (this was just so deep, we contemplated it for hours)

So hurry and get your copy at your local bookstore (several km's away). Prepare to soar up to the unknown limits of your mind and soul. This book really gives you the chance to take a good look at your inner self. This really tops our best book list!

This week's guest book column was brought to us by Thelma & Louise. Send your "best book" reviews to 514.278.9914, baby.



# CREE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE CONFERENCE



"You have it made. Count your blessings. I've met some really good people here."

- Chief Mary-Anne Stoney

*The Nation:* You gave a talk on losing the Cree language and impacts.

Chief Mary-Anne Stoney: Yes, I find that our people in Saskatchewan are losing their language at a remarkable rate. I find this very disturbing. I

would say that in my reserve the majority of people under 21 don't speak it. Some may understand some of it but there are others who don't understand it.

**What kind of impacts or changes in attitudes do you see?**

Our youth have tried to adopt non-First Nations ways of life and doing things. It doesn't really fit, so they're in a kind of limbo. As a result a lot of our youth are involved in alcohol and drugs. A lot of them are getting into conflicts with the law.

**Do you have some sort of program to regain the language?**

In my reserve, yes, we've implemented a language program from Grades 1 to 12. This was actually one I had developed for another band. I've been in the language and culture sector for the past 20 years and one of the contracts I did was where they developed a Grades 9-12 language program. They did that area first because in Saskatchewan you need a second language to get into a post-secondary program or institution. So they developed that area first in order to meet the needs of the students. Then we went back and developed Grades 1 to 8. So that program is the only developed program teaching Cree language and culture from Grades 1 to 12. As a result other bands are utilizing it and I've taken that program into my school and it's being implemented.

Like everywhere else I find that our problem is a lack of resources. There just doesn't seem to be enough around and the teachers are overworked trying to develop materials to go with the program.

**Would you like some sort of a government program that would focus on getting resources or would you be looking at training as a priority?**

I think teacher-training programs would be helpful. We have a First Nations post-secondary institution in Saskatchewan. I've recently become part of the board of governors. I feel I want to make those kinds of changes. We have to address the language and culture needs of our people. I believe teacher training is one of the ways to do it. Within that would be the development of materials

By Brian Webb and William Nicholls

An event comes along once in a while that defies description. We can give you a physical description: 300 delegates from nine communities arrived in Ouje-Bougoumou to talk about the future of the Cree language and culture. Most were from the Cree School Board, some came from the Band Councils, some were Elders, some were young and so on. But this all doesn't give you a sense of what really happened November 4 to 6, 1997.

The Cree School Board hosted a forum to discuss where the Cree language and culture are, and where they are going. It looked at Cree language and culture as something living and evolving. We can only give you a small idea of what went on, as there was so much that happened. In addition to this report, the school board's *Learning Circle* newsletter will be inserted in the next issue of *The Nation* and will fill in some more blanks for you.

Chief Mary-Anne Stoney, from Little Pine First Nation in Saskatchewan, was up first to speak at the Cree Language and Culture Conference. She has been a chief for just one year in an area that has seen a recent crop of women taking the leadership roles. Stoney can remember a time when there was only one woman chief in the province. Within the last three years, that number has grown to six.

Chief Stoney spent the past 20 or so years helping to develop Native language curriculums for First Nations across Canada, the Crees of James Bay included. After working in this field so long, she recognized a need for leadership to get involved and so she became a leader. Chief Stoney talked about the loss of the Cree language in Saskatchewan and the some of the impacts she has seen.



A black and white portrait of a woman with short, dark hair, wearing glasses and a dark jacket over a light-colored shirt. She is looking slightly to the right of the camera. The background is dark and out of focus.

*the Nation*



# Is there a future in Cree Enterprises? In our home land, there are only a few businesses that are owned and operated by natives.

Many entrepreneurs believe that James Bay is the land of opportunity because of its natural resources and the market being in its pioneer stage.

**F**or example, Native Tourism will grow to be one of the most important industries in Canada. This sector of the market has not yet reached its full potential the Cree have to offer. Hence, we have the opportunity to promote our culture to the world.

**W**e have to take risks to boldly go where no Cree has gone before. The more diversity that can be achieved in our marketplace, the stronger our economy will become. With a stronger economy, we will be closer to the vision our leaders collectively share as an independent Nation.

**R**emember, the need is there. The market is there. The resources are there. We have the people that can make this become a reality. All you have to do is say and believe "I can do it!" YES, there is a future in Cree Enterprises.



Sponsors of The Entrepreneurial Series Part II



# What business would you like to see in your community?

**The Entrepreneurial Series: PART TWO**  
by Stella Lameboy and Nancy Bobbish

"A lodge. I also thought about starting a ski hill. You know, we have nice hills around here. A ski hill in the winter, and if there's a lake, you can have sea-doo and canoe rentals in the summer."

— Derek Neeposh



"A mini-mall with a food court. A shoe store, clothing store, a non-alcoholic bar, a movie theatre, sporting goods store, a late-night coffee shop, ice cream parlor, bicycle shop with repair services, a training centre for computers. And a music shop."

— Elvis Weapenicappo

"A real pharmacy, a depanneur (in Chinatown in Chisasibi), recycling"

— Cynthia McKee



"Adequate hunting and trapping equipment. They generally go to Baron. A grocery store with healthy food. A Versace store."

— James Bobbish

"Theatre, photo-shop, kids' store, laundrymat, Flea market, recycling."

— Judy Washipabano



"Music. It's a big industry. I don't know why the Crees aren't into it. It's the best medium to express ourselves."

— Bertie Wapachee

"A park to attract tourists, something left in its natural state. An amusement park. A silkscreen shop"

— Jacob Weistche



"We started by selling arts and crafts at Pow Wows. That's how we got the idea to open our store."

— Josie Cox

**This second installment of the Entrepreneurial series has been sponsored by Chee-Bee Construction and The Cree Nation of Chisasibi.**



# Just do it

It all starts with what may seem like a crazy idea — actually, many of them.

Take Roger Orr of Nemaska. Back in 1990, he was driving from Val d'Or late one night, when he began reminiscing about the huge choice of videos in the big town of Chisasibi.

Without a thought, he mumbled, "I wish we had a video store in Nemaska." A stark silence filled the truck for 10 minutes. Then he shouted out "I should start one!"

Seven years later, his basement was overflowing with video titles, with an endless stream of customers constantly parading in and out the door. He and his wife Linda knew it was time for another idea — to get the video store out of their home.

He began eyeing the depanneur, noticing all the traffic and the awkward hours: especially the "Closed for Lunch" sign. He had a feeling there might be room in Nemaska for another store.

"At first I was scared. But we started coming up with a business plan. I kept writing down ideas and lists of things to do," he said.

Then last spring, the band began looking for what to do with the faltering youth centre building. It seemed like a perfect opportunity. So Roger and Linda did some more brainstorming and it all came down to "Games, Eats, Movies, Treats" Hence the name *4 in 1*.

With all that space, Roger and Linda decided they could run 2 snack counters, a video game machine, a real counter for their videos with tons of room left over for special events. Roger could even order that smoke machine and disco ball he always wanted.

After tons of planning and consulting, they took the dive and quit their jobs in late May, but waited all summer for financing to come through, before finally opening their doors in late October. "It was tough. We were completely out of money."

But if their recent halloween bash is any proof of success, all it takes is a dream, flexibility and lot of hard work.

*Stay tuned next issue for how Roger and Linda got it all going.*



## What's your business idea and how will you serve your community? Step back and take a look at the big picture. How will your idea fly?

*Try these questions to get started.*

1. What is my business idea?
2. Why is it a good idea?
3. Who are my competitors? Are they all out of town, or are they running a similar business in the community?
4. How will my business be different from the competition? How will it be better?
5. Who will want to buy my product or service? How many people, men, women?
6. What will I need to start?
7. Will I need help from others?
8. Are there risks involved? Personal or financial?
9. Will it be profitable?
10. Who do I know with business experience who can advise me and help me?

### BUSINESS: GIVING BACK

95 % of all Cree money leaves our money in stores owned by other places. Cree-owned small businesses will keep more money in the community where it will create jobs for our families, our relatives, our children. Think of all the people who are unemployed.

### SOME FACTS

- There are about 12,000 Crees in the James Bay area.
- In 1994, 2,787 Crees were employed (1,419 on the reserve, 1,368 off reserve);
- By the year 2004, 7,526 Crees will need a job.

Who will provide work for them? The Cree entities can't hire everyone, what are the alternatives? The youth of today, where will they work?

### SMALL BUSINESS - IT'S OUR FUTURE

Entrepreneurs are vital to our society. Well-run businesses benefit the whole community - economically, socially and culturally. Wouldn't you be proud to start a business that would benefit the people in some way?

Did you know that over 50% of new jobs in Canada are being created in small businesses?

People who are engaged in a business they like tend to be happy. They tend to be more successful. Going to work is fun for them. Every accomplishment has greater meaning.



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## BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

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# Now it's up to you, are you ready?

*Are you ready to say yes to the following questions?*

1. I know I will experience disappointments and setbacks along the way but I will persevere.
2. I am not afraid to fail. I will make mistakes, but I will learn from them. Even if this business fails, I will start another one - because I will be wiser. I will learn from the experience. (This ability to accept failure without admitting defeat is the most important attitude for achieving long-term success.)
3. I am willing to put in long hours. (Not every business requires a lot of money to start.) Hard work, persistence, commitment, this is the real investment of every successful entrepreneur. Business is 1 percent inspiration and 99 percent perspiration, at least for the first two years.

*My family. My children. Are they ready for my decision?*

We rely on our family more heavily than most of us realize and their support can be absolutely crucial to someone starting a new business. Typically, an entrepreneur will work long hours, forego salary if finances are tight, skip a long-anticipated vacation. The individual who starts a business will suffer a great deal of insecurity, fear, anxiety and hesitancy - at least until the business is established and operating smoothly. Our family and friends provide us with strength and encouragement.

*This may be an excellent time to review your situation.*

Have you carefully considered what it would mean to give up your present job?

Do you have the self-discipline, the dedication, and the motivation to handle a business of your own?

Have you identified a business that suits your talents, and a business for which there is a genuine need in your community?

Do you have the support of your family, friends, and potential business associates?

If you have answered yes to all of these questions, you're probably ready to make that first real step toward turning your dream into a reality. Stay tuned for the next installment of the Entrepreneurial Series, where we will look at ways to get your business started.

### SOME THINGS YOU CAN'T DO WITHOUT

**A BOOK KEEPER.** This is essential. Find someone who knows how to do it. Hire them part-time - evenings and weekends. Keep control of your money.

**GOOD WORKERS.** People you can rely on. Who will show up for work, every day.

**WORKING HOURS.** If you say your business is open from 9-5 then make sure it is. Always open on time. People will be able to rely on you.

**A BUSINESS PLAN** Draft a plan: not only for finances, but for yourself as well. When you have your goals written down, you have a sense of direction of where your business is going.





## POSTING FOR POSITION OF **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** OF THE JAMES BAY CREE CULTURAL EDUCATION CENTRE

*To oversee and be responsible for the day to day administration of the James Bay Cree Cultural Education Centre and to oversee and be responsible for the work of and give direction to the other employees of the Centre and more particularly:*

- to develop and submit funding proposals to the Board of Directors and ensure their transmittal to Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and to the Board of Compensation at the end of each fiscal year;
- to ensure the proper allocation of the annual grants from the funding parties and to make reallocations of funds within the approved programs or projects;
- to ensure the proper implementation of the programs or projects approved by the Board of Directors;
- to supervise the other employees of the Centre and ensure the quality of services provided to the Crees;
- to ensure that the books, accounts and financial records of the Centre are kept according to normally acceptable accounting practices and to act as the chief financial officer of the Centre;
- to oversee the coordination of Elders/Youth Conferences, research of archival materials and other cultural/language development projects or programs and to provide technical assistance to local groups on cultural/language development projects;
- to maintain, store and develop cultural and administrative files and archival resources for the Centre.

**PLACE OF WORK:** OUJE-BOUGOUMOU

**DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS:** DECEMBER 30, 1997

**PLEASE SEND RESUME & APPLICATION TO:**

ANNIE BOSUM  
Executive Secretary  
James Bay Cree Cultural Education Centre  
Ouje-Bougoumou, Quebec G0W 3C0  
Tel.: 418-745-3911  
Fax: 418-745-3181







# Two Important Meetings to Happen in Eeyou Istchee in November



*In a previous meeting in November 1996, Dr. Schnellhardt, European Parliamentary Member, visits the Crees to look at how the ban on Canadian Wildfur would affect the Crees. Also present are Thomas Coon and Kenny Blacksmith.*

Members of the European Parliament will visit the Cree leadership in Chisasibi on November 24th.

The visit is organized by the Canada-Europe Association of Parliamentarians. It will include 10 European Members of Parliament and their assistants. In addition a parliamentarian from Quebec and Canada will attend.

## ON THE AGENDA

CREE RIGHTS  
IMPACTS OF HYDRO DEVELOPMENT  
FORESTRY IMPACTS  
EUROPEAN FUR AGREEMENT  
TOURISM

The Round Table with the Federal Government will happen in Eastmain on November 28th

The forum was agreed to by the Cree leadership and on the Federal side organized by the Minister of Indian Affairs with her Federal Cabinet colleagues.

## ON THE AGENDA

FEDERAL NEGOTIATIONS  
SELF GOVERNMENT  
CREE RIGHTS  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
GUN REGULATIONS  
OFF-SHORE ISLANDS  
JUSTICE AND POLICE



Grand Council of the Crees (of Quebec)  
Grand Conseil des Cris (du Québec)

CREE REGIONAL AUTHORITY  
ADMINISTRATION RÉGIONALE CRIE





**John Petagumskum, Whapmagoostui Elder,** "I'm not shy to talk. I've been invited to many meetings. What the Elders taught in the bush long ago—the Cree way of life—we should ask the Great Spirit to hold on to what was passed on to us. What the Cree taught, that is what I'll talk about. I used to be outside for a long time for my children. I used to be miserable but I thought of my children."

**Daniel Moses, Eastmain,** "I really feel like helping out in this meeting of Cree language and culture. Alcohol, we all know how it was long ago. It was fun for us. As we see it today, we try to stop it. It makes hurt and death. We now have fast vehicles. We get injured from them, lots of unhappiness. The language and culture is the same. Clash of the languages and cultures. In my small community, there are three languages. Even when speaking Cree, English pops up eventually. That makes me uneasy. I really think the students should learn their language first. That is how we lose our language when the children are taught another language. That was what the white man did to us before—trying to wipe us out. We shouldn't meet like this for just one year. We should do it for a long time. The children should be taught the life in the bush—all the tasks done in the bush. It should be written down in Cree. There should be someone doing that to write down the books and to translate. Our language should be more prominent. Our culture is very important for our children to learn. When I tell a story from the bush, my children ask what I say. The references of the bush are not used in the community. I mastered the life of bush. The people of long ago kept the teachings in their heads. They didn't use computers. I was told once that I seem to just reach in to my mind for my knowledge. But white people use books, files and computers. That was how sharp their minds were long ago. Even the legends, I don't forget what I have heard."

**Jimmy Trapper, Waskaganish,** "I value the Cree teachings. I really pity when the land is destroyed. But what the Cree try to carry on, I value that. I'm grateful that I was taught that and that I understand it all. I'm grateful my grandfather taught me that. When we were young and living in teepees, we had the good life with some hardships. The rain came down through the teepee. Our children are cozy now. They should not forget. There were times when food was scarce and now it looks so fancy. When someone works, they should do it properly—everything they do, just like hunting. They should do it whole-heartedly."

**Florrie Mark-Stewart, Eastmain,** "For the ones that are starting to teach the Cree language, never give up. I hope they never leave their endeavours even during the difficult times. What the Elders talk about is what they have mastered. They knew everything and remembered everything without writing it down. My father made a good living for us without depending on a government cheque. The husband and wife helped each other. When I was alone at the camp, I didn't have any daycare. Today, you just turn a knob when you want water and there's daycare for children when you work. When someone doesn't know how to do something, they should go to the Elders so they can strengthen their language

and culture. The Elders we see today are the last ones who saw the lifestyle of the hunt, without help from anywhere else. Their knowledge is strong. They didn't put anything down on paper. When they're gone, we will lose a lot. It is from the bush where a lot of the language is. A child would learn many things in the teepee and the things from the land. That is what we will lose when our Elders leave us. The snowshoe is one of the most valuable things in the bush. Everyone had them. They carried the hunter through the deep snow. He sang songs in reverence of them. Now we're losing how to make them. All those tools that were used, it shouldn't be lost."

## The Commission des Normes du Travail is keeping you informed...

The Act respecting Labour Standards stipulates that the Commission des normes du travail can exercise certain recourses on behalf of employees. There are 3 different recourses which employees may take advantage of.

**Does your employer owe you money?**

If you believe that your rights have been infringed upon or that your employer owes you money under the Act respecting Labour Standards (for example: unpaid wages, overtime, indemnity for a statutory holiday, vacation pay, etc.), you have one year to file a complaint with the Commission des normes du travail.

**Are you the victim of a prohibited practice?**

The Act respecting Labour Standards stipulates that it is against the law to dismiss employees on certain grounds (for example: refusal to work overtime, pregnant employee, employee having testified in a case relating to the Act respecting Labour Standards, etc.) or to exercise reprisals against, transfer or suspend employees on these same grounds. If you believe that you are the victim of a prohibited practice, you have 45 days to file a complaint against a prohibited practice with the Commission des normes du travail.

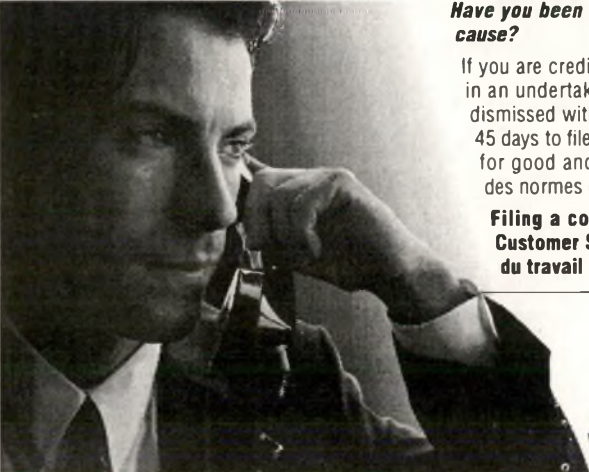
**Have you been dismissed without good and sufficient cause?**

If you are credited with 3 years of uninterrupted service in an undertaking and you believe that you have been dismissed without good and sufficient cause, you have 45 days to file a complaint against a dismissal not made for good and sufficient cause with the Commission des normes du travail.

**Filing a complaint with the CNT is easy! Contact Customer Services at the Commission des normes du travail**

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**1 800 265-1414**

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## BEST OF LUCK

*to all the participants  
of the 1997 Cree Nation  
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from Chisasibi  
Sports and Recreation  
Association

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The Council and entire staff  
of the Cree Nation of Eastmain  
would like to wish  
all the players at this year's  
Cree Nation Invitational  
Senior Hockey & Broomball  
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# Between Friends

## Seven Philosophies for a Native American Man

I read the following article in the October 22 issue of Tekawennake News. The Seven (The last four will be in the next issue) Philosophies were compiled by White Bison, Inc., an American Indian non-profit corporation, with the help of Elders who guided the Gathering of Native American Men which was held in Colorado in June, 1996. They were written with Indian men in mind. -Deantha

### First Philosophy: To the Women

The cycle of life for the woman is the baby, girl, woman and grandmother. These are the four directions of life. She has been given by natural laws the ability to reproduce life. The most sacred of all things is life. Therefore, all men should treat her with dignity and respect. Never was it our way to harm her mentally or physically. Indian men were never abusers. We always treated our women with respect and understanding. So, from now on:

I will treat women in a sacred manner. The Creator gave women the responsibility for bringing new life into the world. Life is sacred, so I will look upon the women in a sacred manner.

In our traditional ways, the woman is the foundation of the family. I will work with her to create a home atmosphere of respect, security and harmony.

I will refrain from any form of emotional or physical abuse. If I have these feelings, I will talk to the Creator for guidance.

I will treat all women as if they were my own female relatives.

This is my vow.

### Second Philosophy: To the Children

As an eagle prepares its young to leave the nest with all the skills and knowledge it needs to participate in life, in the same manner so will I guide my children. I will use the culture to prepare them for life.

The most important thing I can give to my children is my time. I will spend time with them in order to learn from them and to listen to them.

I will teach my children to pray, as well as the importance of respect.

We are the caretakers of the children for the Creator. They are His children, not ours.

I am proud of our own Native language. I will learn it if I can and help my children to learn it.

In today's world it is easy for the children to go astray, so I will work to provide positive alternatives for them. I will teach them the culture. I will encourage education. I will encourage sports. I will encourage them to talk with the Elders for guidance; but mostly, I will seek to be a role model myself. I make this commitment to my children so they will have courage and find guidance through traditional ways.

### Third Philosophy: To the Family

The Creator gave to us the family, which is the place where all teachings are handed down from the grandparent, to the parent, and to the child. The children's behaviour is a mirror of the parent's behaviour. Knowing this, I realize the importance for each Indian man to be responsible to the family in order to fulfill the need to build a strong and balanced family. By doing this, I will break the cycle of hurt and ensure the positive mental health of the children, even the children yet to be born. So, from now on:

I will dedicate my priorities to rebuilding my family. I must never give up and leave my family only to the mother.

I am accountable to restore the strength of my family. To do this, I will nurture our family's spiritual, cultural and social health. I will demonstrate trust, respect, honor and discipline; but mostly, I will be consistent in whatever I do with them.

I will see that the grandparents and community Elders play a significant role in the education of my children.

I realize that the male and female together are fundamental to our family life. I will listen to my mate's council for our family's benefit, as well as for the benefit for my Indian Nation.

## The Twilight Zone

### Your Horoscope By Thelma & Louise

**Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb 18)** You will look around and decide you would rather be somewhere else with someone else. You will have the inner strength to pack-up and head for greener pastures. Follow your intuition. You know where you want to go. Don't let anything stand in your way.

**Pisces (Feb 19-March 20)** Everyone wants you as their lucky charm. Keep your eyes open. Someone is coming to take your breath away. Enjoy your stay on cloud nine. The view from there is panoramic. Isn't love grand? You will be intoxicated with the essence of romance. You are hot this month.

**Aries (March 21-April 19)** Let the "go-getter" side of you take a break. You have planted your seeds. Now sit back and watch them bloom. All of your hard work is not in vain. Happy endings do exist. It's up to you to make them happen. Procrastination will help things fall into place.

**Taurus (April 20-May 19)** It's time to socialize and show everyone your true colors. Shine in the spotlight. The time is ripe for you. You can talk anyone into anything. However it is up to you to make the first move. You radiate positive energy that will help you on your quest for happiness.

**Gemini (May 20-June 21)** You'll find out who your real friends are soon. You have a guardian angel who will guide you through

a dramatic revelation that will boost your spiritual awareness and light your way to a bright and happy future. Embrace the opportunity while it is still within your grasp.

**Cancer (June 22-July 22)** Plant your stake where you feel it belongs. You are a territorial predator. Protect what is yours. If there is a mass of people telling you that you can't do it, push them aside and show them what you are made of. Your attitude reflects your wardrobe. Get out the leather and chains. Don't forget the boots!

**Leo (July 23-Aug 23)** You will be an active ball of confusion. Spinning in every direction. Twirling into the unknown. Be strong. There is calm after the storm. Get off the couch and do something innovative: like going outside and getting some air. You cannot live life through a television set...Hello!

**Virgo (Aug 24-Sept 22)** Play hard. Work Hard. If not, you'll get yourself into a load of trouble. Keep busy. This way the rest of us will know we are safe from harms way. When you have done all of your work. Sit back and reflect on nothingness. Philosophize on the wonders of emptiness. The idea is to keep your self busy. Keep away from dark thoughts.

**Libra (Sept 23-Oct 22)** You are a sly fox. Always observing and assessing your

environment. Maintain an unattainable air of indifference. Playing hard to get will pay off. Being mysterious is more intriguing than obviousness. Use your foxy abilities to blend in and disappear at social gatherings. This might be the best way to get the information you want.

**Scorpio (Oct 23-Nov 21)** It's a privilege to hold your hand, not a right. Anything less would be uncivilized. Revel in the love and admiration you'll be receiving. Bouquets and bouquets of flowers are being sent your way. Don't let it all go to your head or else the cards on the flowers might say "Get well soon!"

**Sagittarius (Nov 22-Dec 22)** A sudden flash of insanity will force you to make some changes in your life. Set your sights high for you have the power to reach them. Don't settle for second best. You have to walk the walk to talk the talk. Experience not ignorance is bliss. You are finally on the right track babe.

**Capricorn (Dec 23-Jan 19)** You will boldly go where no one has gone before. Chin-up, chest-out. Breathe deeply and march right into the unknown. The time has come to shed your old skin and live anew. The galaxy is yours to explore. Keep your eyes open. There are aliens among us. Trust no one, in other words remain the same.





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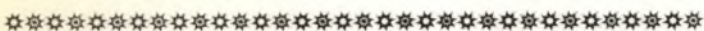
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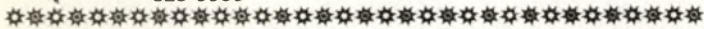


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## FREDDIE THE LITTLE BLACKFLY

Theodore is going camping at Duncan Lake. The lake is beside the hydro-electric dam. The famed LG-2 dam.

Millions of people get their power from the LG-2 dam. But Freddie the little blackfly, he too can reach millions of people.

He's been around longer than the dams. Freddie the little blackfly loves his home, the wet spongy land that covers most of the North.

He knows Theodore will be camping for the weekend.

The little swampy Cree.

Freddie the little blackfly hopes to have fun with him,

But Theodore knows he's there and of course Theodore's Mother knows too.

She will be armed to the teeth with blackfly lotions and mosquito nets.

Still Freddie the little blackfly plans to have fun.

As for Theodore he knows a few tricks how to deal with the king of the swamps.

It's no use to swap him swiftly.

There's swarms of them waiting on a very calm evening.

It begins to be hot and humid for Theodore to play in the sun

He tries to be careful and to sweat any moisture on his skin, and Freddie the tiny blackfly will be all over him in a second

So he waits

Freddie waits too

Theodore stays in the shade hoping Freddie the little blackfly won't see him, but Freddie likes the shade too.

Theodore's Mother rubs him with lotions, his neck, put lotion on his ears

She is careful around his eyes but Theodore knows Freddie doesn't care about his eyes at all

He can look like a boxer if Freddie the little blackfly had his way with him

The lotion his Mother so carefully rubs on him wears off, he forgets not to play too hard

All of a sudden he starts to sweat and feels bites all over his face and hands

He Theodore remembered his first encounter with Freddie the little blackfly.

His eyes were all swollen shut and he looked like he had been death with the third kind

Theodore goes inside his tent to cool off

Freddie the little blackfly waits outside

He knows about Theodore's Mom's mosquito coils

Suddenly Theodore heard a noise

The fluttering of the aspens

The wind had came up that will give Theodore a chance to play in the sun and Theodore hopes Freddie the tiny blackfly will be blown far away.

Theodore wonders that someone as tiny as the blackfly can make him look at the end of the day all bloody sometimes wearing bandaids

And Freddie the blackfly sleeps and dreams of Theodore

He is truly king of the North

**Margaret Sam-Cromarty, 1997**

# DO YOU KNOW THE ACT?



# The Commission des Normes du Travail is keeping you informed...

The Act respecting Labour Standards contains numerous provisions. It deals with the following subjects in particular:

- Minimum wage and overtime
- Duration of the regular workweek
- Statutory holidays
- Annual leaves

- Special leaves with or without pay

- Maternity leave and paternity leave

- Absences by reason of illness or accident

- Provisions relating to the termination of employment or dismissal

In addition, the Act protects employees by prohibiting employers from dismissing employees on certain grounds, or suspending, transferring or exercising discriminatory measures or reprisals against them. It also prohibits, after 3 years of uninterrupted service, dismissals not made for good and sufficient cause.

To find out more about the Act respecting Labour Standards or the recourses that it permits, contact Customer Services at the Commission des normes du travail.

Greater Montréal Area: **873-7061**  
Long distance calls (toll free): **1 800 265-1414**  
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## CLASSIFIEDS

### 101-B-DAYS!!!

To our baby girl **Nikki Shecapio**. On September 12, 1996 you came into our lives and filled our hearts with joy. You are one of God's special ingredients that help nourish a healthy family with your warm smile and giggles just sad a sweet taste of God's love. Your charm and funny faces shows up to something could be playing with pots and pans or digging in the tape drawers for some fun. Happy birthday little lady and just keep on being yourself but we'll be by your side if you should fall. We love you little angel. Happy birthday and have fun on your special day. Love and more love, mom Agnes and dad Glen Shecapio. From N e m a s k a  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX.

**Happy belated** second birthday to my daughter and sister **Grace Stacy Coonishish** on May 18, 1997. We wish you all the best and many more years to come. We love you very much. Love always, Daisy, Wayne, Jennica.

**A birthday wish** going out to a special person in my life **Daniel Icebound** who will be celebrating his birthday on June 8, 1997. You're very special to me in every way and I love you for who you are. Take care of your self. Fom Cynthia N.

**Happy belated** 2nd birthday to my niece **Grace Stacy Coonishish** on May 18, 97. You're very special to me and I love you with all my heart. Love always, Cynthia Neeposh. xoxoxoxo.

**A birthday wish** going out to my nephew **Roger Steve Neeposh Shecapio** on June 17, 97. Hope you'll have a good time on your special day and many more to come. Take care and I love you very much. From your aunt Cynthia

**I would like** to wish these kids on their upcoming birthdays, to **Candace Wash** on June 1, **Janice Wash** on June 15, **Nimisjo (Trevor Snowboy)** on June 23rd. Enjoy your birthdays kids, friends, cousins which one maybe the kids nam. Love always, Darla Hester Wash.

**I would like** to wish my buddy **Terrell Leroy Hester Whiskeychan** who will be celebrating his 1st birthday on June 4. Happy 1st birthday **Buddy Terrell**. Love in friendship, Darla Hester Wash. Chisasibi.

**Happy birthday** to my aunt in

**Waskaganish** celebrating her birthday on June 21, 1997. Rachel, one thing to say, don't knock grandma and grandpa's door after midnighn while they're sleepin. Just walk around in Waskaganish. Have fun on your birthday Aunt Rachel. Love ya. Love always, your niece Darla.

**Happy birthday** to my mom on June 25th. I love you to eternity mom. I know you love me more than anything in this world. Love always from your daughter. Rosanna who loves you sooo much!

**Happy birthday** to a sweet lady on May 10, **Phoebe Blacksmith**. I would just like to wish you a happy birthday all the way ffrom the deep woods of James Bay. Hope your dauy is as special and sweet as you arew. You take care of yourself now don't.....too much now! See you at the pow wow. PD. xoxoxo

**Happy birthday** to a growing man **Malachi Wapachee** on September 15, Hope you'll have fun and wait for something in the mail. It's not Barney,. You're getting too old for him. With love, Agnes and Dad Glen and almost forgot Nikki. We love and miss you a lot.

**Happy birthday** to our mother **Margaret Gilpin** on November 3. You're a special friend and we know you're always there. We cherish the love you give to us we cherish the way you care. We treasure the all the things you say and all the things you do. on this day and every day my thought and love are with you and once again happy birthday. From Wilfred, Linda, Victor, Chris, Dorothy and Alexis.

**Happy birthday** to **Miyawbin Wapachee** on October 31st. Happy birthday and happy Halloween. Lots more birthdays and we love you. From your aunts, uncles, cousins and especially grandpa Pash in Chisasibi.

**Josephine Visitor** will be celebrating her 3rd birthday on November third. All the best and we hope you have lots of fun on your birthday. You are a very special little girl an can do a lot of good and damage but we love you very much. We love the way you smile and especially when you fight and scratch. Anyways happy birthday. From Janie, Archie and cousins.

**Happy birthday** to a special mom **Caroline Grondin** in Val



# CLASSIFIEDS

d'Or. Her children would like to wish her a happy birthday on November 15 with many wishes of health, happiness and prosperity. XXXX. M is for the mother who gives us wonderful memories, O is for your outstanding efforts as a mother, T is for the tender loving heart, H is for the happiness you bring to our lives as your children., E is for the everlasting love you give us, R is for the riches you will always bring into our hearts and our lives.

**I would like to wish** my friend a happy belated birthday on October 10, 1997. This one goes out to you Helen salt. My friend I want you to know how proud I am of you making that decision to change your lifestyle. The day you told me of your decision I never once doubted you and somehow I also knew you could do it! Keep it up! Remember I'm just a phone call away. Your friend always, Judy C. from Ouje-Bougoumou.

**Happy belated birthday** to my baby sister Betsy Wesley in Moose Factory on September 30. Hope you had a great time! Love always, your sis who loves you. Judy W. Cappissit. (OJ)

**Birthday wishes** going out to my grand mothers and auntie Stella Grandma Winnie H. Nov. 11, 1997 grandma Louise November 20, 97 auntie Stella November 20, 1997. Auntie Stella don't party too much. I love you guys. From Sophia H.

**Happy birthday** to a special sister Alice Wapachee on November 30. I'm so sorry I didn't get you anything but you'll always have my love. Because you're my only true friend I've got in this world and because you understand my feelings and you lend me a hand when I need one.. Hope you know that I love you very much sister. Even though sometimes we don't get along at all and just remember that there's always a place for you in my heart. Once again I'd like to wish you a very happy birthday. From your sister Theresa Wapachee. P.S. Esta Bienne? Tiqueto moocho!

**Birthday wishes** to Nelson Blackned celebrating his birthday on November 19. Wishing you only the very best and many more birthdays. Love always, Louise B.

**Happy belated birthday** to my friends, Tina Chishkamish on October 6, Karen Hester on October 15, Betty Coonishish on October 21. Also to these girls who will celebrate their birthdays

in November, Beesum, Louise Visitor on November 8, Betsie Matches on November 21 and to Diane Shecapio on November 19. I hope I have all the right dates. Happy birthday to all of you girls. From your longtime and always be your friend, Edith Gunner in Mistissini,. See you all someday!

**Happy belated birthday** to Darryl Spencer on October 19, 1997. So, every year you are getting old, then you know you're sixty years old. Anyways happy 20th birthday. Hope you have fun an many more to come and wishing you the best in life. Take care of yourself. Hope you didn't party too much. Miss you a lot. See you in December. Love always, You know me. xoxoxoxoxoxo.

**Happy birthday** to my cute little brother Trevor Lee Whiskeychan. I hope you'll have a Barney cake. Your favorite show and nave a great time on your special day. I love you so much. Love always, your sister Diane Salt.

**Happy birthday** to our brother Waldo Whiskeychan. His birthday is on November 8. We love you brother. Hope you'll have fun on your special day. From your two sisters.

**A belated birthday wish** going out to my sister Hannah Sealhunter on November 26. Happy 18th birthday! Hope you had a great time on your birthday. Hope all your dreams come true! With love, your sister Samantha. xoxoxoxo.

**I would like to wish** two people in my life, my mother Sandra House (MTL) on November 21. You're getting older and starting to have white hair but I know you're young at heart. I love you even though we argue with each other and also my boyfriend Jonathan Cheezo (ONT) on November 30. You're the only person I love. I know we had hard times but I won't stop loving you. No matter what. Happy birthday to both of you. Have fun but don't drink and I know I will celebrate with you guys. Love always, your one and only love, Andrea Jasmine Mamianscum. xoxoxoxo (MTL)

**Happy 1st birthday** to our special daughter Bellina Capissit on November 20, 1997. We love you very much. Hope you'll have

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# CLASSIFIEDS

lots of fun on your special day. Remember you brought lots of happiness to our lives since the day you were born. With lots of hugs and kisses. From mommy, Betsy Capissis and happy birthday Eden. I love you. xoxoxoxo.

**Happy birthday** to someone I really care for, my sister Lorraine Icebound on November 1st, 1997. It really means a lot to have a special sister like you and here's a wish for the year ahead that's made with a lot of love. May it be a year that's sure to hold the things you hold fondest of. May your day be as beautiful as you are, and as happy as you. Happy birthday sis! Take care. Love always, Your sister Bianca. I.

**Birthday greetings** to a very good friend and an excellent cook, Beverly Gilpin on Nov. 16. Pssst....easy on the wine. In friendship, Sheila, Shelley, Dorothy, Betty and mom Evelyn.

## 103-ANNIVERSARIES

**Happy 3rd anniversary** to my loving husband Dale Sam on November 14, 1997. Being married to you is the best thing that ever happened to me. I love being with you. I love you with all my heart. Love always, your wife Angela Sam.

**On June 12, 1996**, this couple exchanged their vows to each other. We the children of Roderick and Annie Blackned would like to wish ou parents a happy 35th anniversary on June 12, 1997. We thank you for the love, the undersatnanding and the support you have given to us. But mostimportantly, it's love that holds our family close in such a special way. And it's love that fills this special wish for both of you. Happy Anniversary!!! Mom and Dad. We love you both. (Wask.).

## 104-GRADUATIONS!

**Congratulations** going out to Laura Tanoush Kitchen on her graduation from Native Early Childhood on November 1, 1997. We are really proud of you. Especially for being presented with both awards, first for Best Academic Achievement, second for Best Community Involvement. Once again Laura, congratulations! From Reggie, Sophia, Darius and Terrence.

**Congratulations** to a wonderful husband and caring father Hugo Cowboy for a successful completion of his course in Recreation Facility Management

and recieving the Aboriginal Achievement Award in Leadership. We are very proud and love you very much. Hope you attend your graduation on June 3rd. We miss you. From wife Sarah and daughter Amoo.

**Congratulations to Margaret Wadden** for graduating on May 2 from the Professional Cooking course and for the award you recieved. We are proud of you. From your boyz and

grandchildren.

**Well Baby Bro. You did it! Ain't it Great?** The best to you on your Graduation Day and the days to follow. Remember, your future is what you make of it, so make the best of it. Enjoy! Prosper! And Jon, 'WORD!' Your sis, Jen.

## 200-FOR SALE

**Fender Telecaster Electric Guitar**, 50th anniversary edition

USA, Product Color: Sunburst. Bought in Jan. 1997. Comes with Hard Case and accessories. Price \$1,400. For information, call 819-895-2715, Andrew Weistche.

## 300-PERSONALS

Mnohaya lita mnohaya lita, mnohaya lita, mnoha-ya li-ta... Mnohaya lita, mnohaya lita, mnohaya, mnohaya li-ta! Mami. From the boys, papa & Rhonda. ALSO: Belated H. B-Day to Rhonda!!!



# CHILD SUPPORT

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**On May 1st, 1997,**

**Child Support Guidelines were introduced to:**

- Set the basic amount the parent paying child support should pay based on income, the number of children involved and the laws of the province or territory where that parent lives;
- Make setting the amount of support fair, predictable and consistent for children.

For more information about how the child support guidelines apply when both parents live in Quebec, please call:

**1-800-363-1363** (Communication-Québec)  
**(418) 643-5140** (Ministère de la Justice du Québec)

If either parent lives outside of Quebec, the federal child support guidelines apply.

For more information, call toll-free:

**1-888-373-2222**

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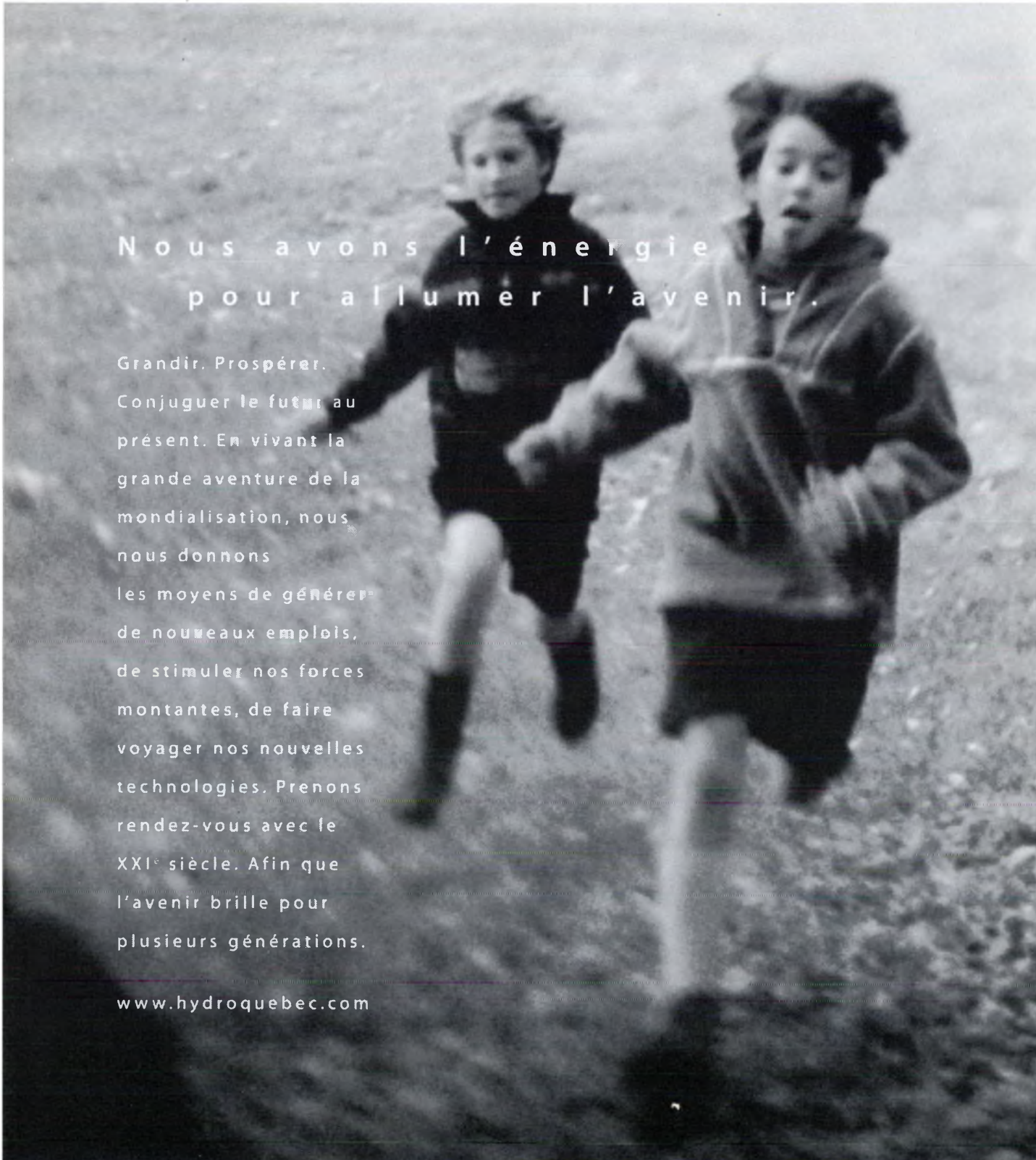


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# Announcing the 1998 Nation Calendar

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James Bay Cree Elders

# 1998

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